

**DRAFT**  
**MINUTES OF 996TH MEETING**  
**OF HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON 21ST NOVEMBER 2005**  
**AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT: -**

**COUNCILLOR D. DICKINSON (CHAIRMAN) COUNCILLOR T. GREENWOOD (VICE CHAIRMAN) COUNCILLORS J.BALDWIN, E. MILLER-CROOK J.PROCTOR T.SHARRATT, Ms. M.URRY AND MR. T HARKNESS (CLERK).**

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE ONE MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC.**

**139. MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 17th October 2005 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**140. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL/PREJUDICIAL INTEREST:**

The Clerk reminded Members of their responsibility to declare any personal interest in respect of matters in the agenda in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Members Code of Conduct. If the personal interest was a prejudicial interest then the individual Member should not participate in a discussion on the matter and must withdraw from the meeting and not seek to influence a decision on the matter. No one declared an interest

**THERE THEN FOLLOWED AN ADJOURNMENT TO ALLOW THE PUBLIC TO RAISE ISSUES AND QUESTION THE PARISH COUNCIL REGARDING MATTERS DEALT WITH. THE MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT RAISED THE FOLLOWING MATTER: -**

**141. TRAFFIC SPEEDS – HOGHTON LANE:**

The Member of the Public present submitted a letter from the Environment Directorate regarding the Accident Investigation Study and requesting the police to carry out speed enforcement action along Hoghton Lane.

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the County Council had confirmed that the scheme to reduce the speed of traffic on Hoghton Lane, had been given a high priority in the 2006/07 Local Safety Schemes Programme.

The proposals would be submitted to the portfolio holder for Highways at the County Council in February 2006 and if he confirmed the officer's recommendations the scheme would be sent to the Parish Council for comment. If accepted the scheme would start during the next financial year.

The scheme would be available for comment in December.

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When available details would be sent to Members of the Parish Council and the local resident.

**142. LAPTC REPORT:**

The Clerk submitted the current Newsletter of the Association.

The Chairman reported on the proceedings of the Chorley Area Committee.

Councillor Sharratt reported on the proceedings of the LAPTC Annual General Meeting.

**143. OVERGROWN FOOTWAYS:**

It was reported that work to the footways had been undertaken although Gib Lane still needed to be done. The Lancashire Highways Partnership had confirmed that Gib Lane would be cleaned.

**144. EXIT ROAD M65 HOGHTON ARMS ROUNDABOUT:**

Following the reference made to the lack of road markings at this roundabout and that there was no warning of the end of the slip road from the Motorway. The Highways Agency had confirmed they were investigating this and had asked for clarification about the location of the worn out road markings on the M65/M6. It was felt that all the road markings at Junction 3 of the M65 required attention.

The Clerk would write to the Highways Agency with the further details reported.

**145. TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE:**

The level crossing at Station Road would be closed on Sunday 4th December 2005 from 0045hrs to 1630hrs. This was for track maintenance work to be done.

An Alternative route via Hoghton Lane, and vice versa would be signed.

**146. GRASS VERGE BY BUS SHELTER – BOARS HEAD:**

Councillor Miller Crook reported damage by delivery wagons to the Boars Head to the grass verges by the bus shelter. The Clerk reported this to the Lancashire Highways Partnership. The site would be inspected and it was possible prohibition notices would be erected if this did not work consideration would be given to tarmacing the area.

**147. ACCIDENT – BOARS HEAD**

Councillor Miller Crook circulated photographs of the accident which occurred at the Boars Head on 21st November 2005.

**148 CHORLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT:**

The Chairman presented a report on issues affecting the Parish Council.

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**149. PLANNING REPORT:**

The Chairman reported that the application for the creation of an access track across a field and creation of a car park within the churchyard of the Chapel together with construction of gravediggers store and toilet.(App no 05/00967LBC) had been rejected.

The Clerk reported that the following applications had been made to Chorley since the last meeting:-

1; Various works to 23 Trees (9 of which to be removed) covered by TPO 11 1993  
Hoghton Bank Manor Private Road.

No comments were made on this application.

2. Erection of single storey rear extension 287 Hoghton Lane (App no 05/01098/FUL).

No comments were made on this application.

**150. PARISH COUNCIL ESTIMATES 2006/07:**

The Clerk submitted a report (circulated) dealing with the Parish Council's Estimates for 2006/07, the report gave details of actual spending in 2004/05 together with an update of spending in the current financial year and set out the proposed estimated spending for 2005/2006.

Resolved: - That subject to the amendments agreed the Estimates for 2006/07 as set out below be approved and that the Parish Council's precept on Chorley Borough Council for 2006/07 amount to £3,500 00

**ESTIMATES 2006/07**

LAST YEAR 2004/05	DESCRIPTION	CURRENT YEAR 2005/06		ESTIMATES 2006/07
ACTUAL £		ORIGINAL £	CURRENT £	PROJECTED
RECEIPTS				
3,322.81	B/FWD	3,814.80	3,814.80	3,400.00
3,250.00	PRECEPT	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
721.00	GRANTS	NIL	NIL	NIL
62.39	VAT	100.63	100.63	100.00
67.66	INTEREST	67.66	28.54	50.00
7423.86	TOTAL RECEIPTS	7483.09	7443.97	3550.00

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PAYMENTS				
1153.72	CLERK – SALARY	1100.00	555.86	1100.00
343.37	EXPENSES	360.00	202.94	200.00
400.00	GRANTS AND DONATIONS INCLUDING SECTION 137 PAYMENTS	800.00	390.00	800.00
NIL.	CAPITAL SPENDING	NIL	NIL	NIL
536.25	INSURANCE	600.00.	611.33	700.00
272.00	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	350.00	75.00	700.00
230.64	FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS	270.00	286.93	280.00
124.80	JOB ADVERTISEMENT	NIL	NIL	NIL
58.75	AUDIT FEES	58.75	58.75	59.00
NIL	PHONE RENTAL	155.00	NIL	200.00
90.00	HIRE OF ROOMS	90.00	54.00	90.00
122.79.	STATIONERY AND EQUIPMENT	150.00	NIL	150.00
15.00	TRAINING	NIL	NIL	50.00
28.00	WREATH	28.00	NIL	30.00
16.60	PAY AWARD	NIL	NIL	NIL
NIL	COMPUTER RENTAL	NIL	NIL	100.00
109.63	ELECTIONS	NIL	NIL	NIL
107.43	FOOTPATH PROJECT	141.00NIL	141.00	141.00
NIL	RETIREMENT GIFT	40.44	40.44	NIL
3609.06	TOTAL	3492.19	2275.25	4741.00

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**151. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS:**

The Clerk submitted revised Draft Financial Regulations for adoption by the Parish Council.

It was agreed that these should be adopted forthwith.

**152. DONATION – AUTUMN CLUB**

A request was submitted from Chairlady of the Autumn Club for a donation towards their funds.

The parish Council agreed a donation of £35.00 and a cheque was signed.

**153. LIAISON MEETING BOROUGH/PARISH COUNCIL:**

The Chairman informed the Parish Council on the discussions at the Liaison Committee meeting on 19th October 2005.

**154. WREATH LAYING CEREMONY SUNDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2005:**

The Chairman and other Councillors reported to the Remembrance Day Service. The general arrangements, police presence and provision of the wreath all merited favourable comment.

Councillor E. Miller Crook reported that he had not yet submitted an invoice from H. Holmes Florist for the wreath from the Parish Council.

The invoice would be sent to the Clerk who would make arrangements for the payment of the bill.

The Clerk would send a letter of thanks to the police.

Councillor Ms Urry suggested that an approach be made to Sir Bernard de Hoghton regarding the use of the temporary car park at the drive to Hoghton Tower for the safety and convenience of people attending the Wreath Laying Ceremony.

The Clerk would write to the Sir Bernard de Hoghton to request this facility.

**155. PINFOLD:**

The Clerk reported that following discussions with the Lancashire Countryside Service about a project at Pinfold A site meeting had been held attended by the Chairman, a representative of the Lancashire Countryside Service and the contractor who had carried out work to the site in the past.

Approval had been granted for the scheme and the Clerk was making arrangements.

As part of the scheme the Scouts would be invited to plant the trees.

Details of the tree planting would be sent to the Parish Council.

**156. NOTICE BOARDS:**

As requested by the Parish Council, Care had submitted a revised estimate for attaching canopies to the notice boards the estimated cost was £873.00 compared with the original estimate of £573.00.

It was agreed that a further estimate should be obtained for a canopied notice board near the Post Office Houghton Lane, but not at Houghton Bottoms and Pinfold. This amounted to £673.00.

Discussion followed on the provision of the notice boards. Councillor Sharratt agreed to contact another tradesman with the view to further estimates being obtained.

**157. LANCASHIRE STRENGTHENING LOCAL DEMOCRATIC DECISION MAKING:**

The Clerk submitted the consultation paper setting out the County Council's proposals for strengthening local democratic decision making in Lancashire. It proposed new local arrangements to enable locally elected councillors to shape, monitor and take decisions about local government services delivered in their area. It was proposed that local committees called "Lancashire Locals" be established in each of Lancashire's 12 Districts as a vehicle for strengthening local democratic decision making across the County.

Each Lancashire Local would comprise locally elected county councillors for the district area. The District Council would also be invited to become a member of the Lancashire Local, with an equal number of seats and equal voting rights.

Parish and Town Councils were considered important elements of locality working and the County Council would be consulting on a draft charter covering its relationships with Parish and Town Councils. Each Lancashire Local would want to engage effectively with Parish and Town Councils in their area. How this was achieved was best agreed locally. Therefore each Lancashire Local would be required to produce a local protocol in consultation with Parish and Town Councils on the best means by which local councils could contribute to the work of the Lancashire Local. This would include providing opportunities for individual local councils to make their views known to the Lancashire Locals on issues affecting their areas.

Consultations would be completed by 20 December 2005 and the scheme was due to start in April 2006.

Councillor Sharratt commented on the proposals.

The Parish Council is in favour of the intentions of the proposals but disagrees with the comment contained in the consultation paper that it was not the intention of Lancashire Locals particularly in their formal meeting not to primarily engage with the Community.

The Parish Council believes any elected authority should actively engage with Members of the Public and that the County Council should endeavour to take active steps to promote public involvement in Lancashire Locals. It is also considered that greater publicity is needed.

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**158. STANDING ORDERS:**

The Clerk submitted a copy of draft standing orders to be adopted by the Parish Council.

It was agreed that the draft Standing Orders be circulated to all Members of the Council and the matter be further considered at a future meeting.

**159. CHORLEY AND LEYLAND RADIO:**

The Chairman reported that the Parish Council had attended a presentation at the Pines Hotel at 6.30 p.m. today about the proposed setting up of a new radio station for this area.

**160. COMMUNITY POLICING:**

The Chairman reported the introduction of neighbourhood policing and the appointment of a Community Beat Manager for Abbey Village, Wheelton Withnell Brindle and Hoghton from January next year.

**161. CHORLEY PARISHES MEETING WITH MP:**

The Clerk reported that the Local MP was to hold a meeting with representatives of Parishes in Chorley on Thursday 5th January 2006 at the Town Hall Chorley at 7.30 p.m.

Each Parish had been asked to send up to two representatives.

The Chairman and Clerk would attend the meeting.

**162. EPIPHANY SERVICE BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL.**

The Chairman of the Parish Council had been invited by the Dean of Blackburn Cathedral to attend the Lancashire Civic County Epiphany Service at the Cathedral on 8th January 2006.

**163. ON THE LADDER:**

Details of the Borough Council's Education coaching programme for 14 to 24 year olds were submitted.

**164. WAR MEMORIAL:**

The Vice Chairman suggested that the war memorial needed cleaning.

Councillor Ms Urry indicated that there was a national charity which dealt with the maintenance of war memorials and would submit details to the Clerk.

**165. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

Monday 16th January 2006 at 7.30.p.m at the Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.